

## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY IO/ML:PWKRIEBEL/AF/S:RCPERRY

APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY

IO - MR. LEWIS

AF - C. JAMES

S/S - A. OTTO

EA - MR. GLEYSTEN

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O R 150232Z JUL 76 ZFF6

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY GABORONE

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 175082

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PORG, BL

SUBJECT: COLOMBO NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT: LETTER FROM THE  
SECRETARY

1. PLEASE DELIVER THE TEXT OF THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM  
THE SECRETARY TO PRESIDENT KHAMA. IT IS NOT RPT NOT  
PLANNED TO SEND SIGNED ORIGINALS.

2. BEGIN TEXT. DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: GOVERNOR SCRANTON HAS  
INFORMED ME OF THE WARM AND USEFUL TALKS HE HAD WITH YOU  
AND MEMBERS OF YOUR GOVERNMENT DURING HIS RECENT VISIT. I  
CONSIDER HIS TRIP TO HAVE BEEN AN IMPORTANT ELEMENT IN THE  
DEVELOPING RELATIONSHIP OF THE UNITED STATES WITH THE  
NATIONS OF AFRICA AND WELCOME THE SERIOUS AND OPEN EXCHANGE

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OF VIEWS WHICH HE HAD WITH YOU AND OTHER AFRICAN LEADERS.

I ALSO GREATLY APPRECIATE YOUR WARM RECEPTION OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFLE LAST WEEK FOR A CONTINUATION OF OUR MOST VALUABLE EXCHANGE ON SOUTHERN AFRICA.

GOVERNOR SCRANTON DISCUSSED WITH YOU SEVERAL ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE TO THE UNITED STATES WHICH ARE LIKELY TO COME UP IN INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS PRIOR TO THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND AT THE ASSEMBLY ITSELF. AS YOU KNOW, OF PARTICULAR CONCERN TO US ARE THE QUESTIONS OF PUERTO RICO AND KOREA. I WOULD LIKE TO REINFORCE WHAT GOVERNOR SCRANTON SAID BY PERSONALLY REITERATING THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT'S VIEWS ON THESE TWO SUBJECTS.

OUR POLICY ON PUERTO RICO IS BASED ON COMPLETE ACCEPTANCE OF THE ISLAND'S RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION. THE PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO APPROVED THEIR CONSTITUTION AND COMMONWEALTH STATUS IN 1953, AND REAFFIRMED THEIR CHOICE IN A 1967 REFERENDUM. THE UNITED NATIONS EXPLICITLY RECOGNIZED THE SELF-GOVERNING STATUS OF PUERTO RICO AND REMOVED IT FROM THE LIST OF NON SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES IN 1953. WE ASSURED THE UNITED NATIONS AT THAT TIME THAT, IF THE PUERTO RICAN LEGISLATURE SHOULD ADOPT A RESOLUTION IN FAVOR OF INDEPENDENCE AT ANY TIME IN THE FUTURE, THE PRESIDENT WOULD RECOMMEND TO THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES THAT INDEPENDENCE BE GRANTED.

IN VIEW OF THIS, WE CONSIDER THAT DISCUSSION OF PUERTO RICO'S STATUS BY ANY INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OR ASSEMBLY WOULD BE AN UNWARRANTED INTRUSION INTO THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF THE UNITED STATES AND PUERTO RICO. THE UNITED STATES CAME INTO POSSESSION OF VARIOUS NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES AT THE BEGINNING OF THIS CENTURY AND EACH HAS BEEN ABLE TO CHOOSE THE COURSE IT WISHED TO FOLLOW. THE PHILIPPINES CHOSE INDEPENDENCE, WHICH WAS GRANTED IN 1947; HAWAII CHOSE STATEHOOD; AND PUERTO RICO CHOSE A SPECIAL COMMONWEALTH RELATIONSHIP WITH THE U.S. WHICH CONTINUES TO EVOLVE. SO LONG AS THE PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO WISH TO CONTINUE THIS RELATIONSHIP WITH THE UNITED STATES, ANY DISCUSSION OF IT IN INTERNATIONAL FORUMS CAN ONLY BE OFFENSIVE TO US AND THE PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO. PRESIDENT

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FORD MADE THIS POINT WITH PARTICULAR EMPHASIS WHEN HE VISITED PUERTO RICO IN JUNE. I AM SURE THAT YOU WILL UNDERSTAND OUR STRONG FEELINGS IN THIS MATTER AND I HOPE YOU WILL ACTIVELY SUPPORT EFFORTS TO PREVENT THIS INTRINSICALLY DOMESTIC MATTER FROM BECOMING AN INTERNATIONAL ISSUE.

WITH REGARD TO KOREA, WE DO NOT, AND WE BELIEVE MOST UN

MEMBERS DO NOT, WISH TO SEE THE KOREAN REUNIFICATION ISSUE AGAIN BECOME A WASTEFUL CONTROVERSY DIVERTING THE ENERGIES OF THE UNGA. HOWEVER, IF IMPORTANT GROUPS WITHIN THE UN MEMBERSHIP ACCEDE TO PRESSURES TO ENDORSE THE NORTH KOREAN POSITION--SUCH AS ABOLISHING THE ARMISTICE MACHINERY WITHOUT FIRST AGREEING ON ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS, OR ALTERING THE MILITARY BALANCE WHICH HAS PRESERVED PEACE FOR 23 YEARS--IT IS ALMOST INEVITABLE THAT WE WILL BE FACED WITH A CHALLENGE IN THE UNGA TO WHICH WE WILL BE OBLIGED TO RESPOND ENERGETICALLY. FOR THIS REASON I BELIEVE THE OBJECTIVES OF PEACE AND STABILITY IN THAT AREA

WOULD BE ADVANCED BY STATESMEN ADVOCATING THE ADOPTION OF A CONCILIATORY POSTURE BY THE PARTIES DIRECTLY CONCERNED AND THE RESUMPTION OF THE DIALOGUE TO WHICH THE KOREAN PARTIES AGREED IN 1972. I HOPE TO BE ADDRESSING MYSELF TO THIS SUBJECT FURTHER IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

YOU ARE WELL AWARE THAT WITHIN THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE UN THERE IS A WIDE RANGE OF VIEWS ON PUERTO RICO AND KOREA. I WOULD THEREFORE APPRECIATE YOUR ASSISTANCE IN PREVENTING CONTENTIOUS POSITIONS FROM EMERGING ON EITHER ISSUE AT COMING MEETINGS, IN THE FIRST CASE BY AVOIDANCE OF THE ISSUE ALTOGETHER AND IN THE SECOND BY THE ADVOCACY OF A CONSTRUCTIVE MINIMAL POSITION WHICH CAN BE THE BASIS FOR CONCILIATION.

RESPECTFULLY, HENRY A. KISSINGER. END TEXT.

3. DEPARTMENT WISHES TO TREAT FOREGOING AS PRIVILEGED, PRIVATE CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN SECRETARY AND RECIPIENT. EMBASSY REQUESTED TO DISCOURAGE GOB FROM RELEASE IF ISSUE IS RAISED.  
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